GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1881
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2002
LOAN TO FARMERS WOMEN SC /ST
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI have directed to fix certain percentage of their loan to deliver to farmers, women andSC/STs;

(b) if SOI to what extent these guidelines of RBI have been fulfilled by the various banks; and

(c) if notl the steps RBI have taken for completion of these guidelines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANT G. GEETE)

(a) & (b): As per extant guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), all domestic scheduled banks are required to lend 18 % of their net bank credit (NBC) to agriculture sector. RBIhas further advised all public sector banlr..s to earmark 5% of their NBC for lending to women and this target is to be achieved by 31.3.2004. There is no separate target for lending to SC/STs. Achievements of publiS se<,:tor banks against these targets have been 15,,63% of NBC to agl`iculture as on September, 2001 and 3.45% of NBC to women as on December,2001.

(c): Domestic scheduled commercial banks which al~:! unable to meet their Priority Secto/Agriculture Lending targets are allocated amounts for contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Flmd (RIDF) established with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Besides, an domestic scheduled commercial banks have beenadvised to attain the targets set for advances to priority sector and to agriculture by March 2003.